

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

25X1

COUNTRY ~~East Germany~~

TOPIC Information on the Kummersdorf Bomb Range

618879

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

15 March 1954

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

25X1

During the night of 25/26 November 1953, bombs were dropped by single-engine aircraft on targets in Forest District No 132/a of the Kummersdorf bomb range. At about 7:00 p.m. the exercises began. Four single-engine aircraft flying at an altitude of about 800 meters and about 300 to 400 meters apart from each other appeared over the range and each dropped one bomb on its second approach. The weather was clear and the exercises continued until after mid-night. At 7 a.m. on 9 December, the usual alert was sounded at the range. Two hours later, 4 MiG-15s flying about 500 meters apart from each other crossed Forest District No 174. They subsequently assembled in formation, approached the target and dropped their bombs simultaneously, each plane dropping one bomb. Bomb releases while in formation were seen for the first time. The bombs were dropped against the wind. Bomb releases by MiG-15s were continued throughout the morning. Between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 14 December, single-engine aircraft attacked targets in Forest District No 112/120 with their weapons. The ground attack aircraft were escorted by swept-back jet fighters which, however, did not attack the targets. Similar practices were repeated on 16, 17, 18 and 19 December. On 23 and 28 December, ground attack aircraft flying in formations of 3 approached the bomb range and subsequently dropped bombs and attacked ground targets with their aircraft guns. In early January 1954, the air force details stationed at Kummersdorf left the range. No practices by air units were observed until 22 January. Between 25 and 30 January and 1 and 6 February, single-engine aircraft were again observed practicing over Kummersdorf. In most cases, about 10 ground attack planes would approach in flight formation. They first dropped bombs and subsequently attacked ground targets with their aircraft guns. On one of the days mentioned one flight of ground attack planes diving and dropping one bomb simultaneously from each of the planes. A second flight following immediately after the first, dived to an altitude of about 50 meters and attacked the ground targets with their guns. The third flight again dropped bombs on the targets. A second attack was made by the 9 ground attack planes involved; the procedure which was being used, insured that each of the aircraft attacked the targets both with guns and bombs.

25X1

25X1

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

[redacted] Comment. The Kammersdorf training grounds is generally used for bomb 25X1
release and firing practices by the regiments of the ground attack division
in Alt-Loennwitz. It is unknown to what regiments the MiG-15s observed at
the range belonged. [redacted]
In reference to this, [redacted] the bombs were dropped individually. 25X1
The present report indicates that training in bomb releases has progressed to a
point that bombs are being dropped by aircraft while flying in formation.

SECRET